

Next Steps

Landsat Data Continuity Mission Workshop

The next step is for NASA and the USGS to develop the procurement. First, this requires the forming of a Source Evaluation Board with its attendant support and then producing the needed plans and paperwork.

A draft RFP will be issued prior to the release of the formal RFP. The time scale for the release of the draft RFP is months (i.e., release in the summer/fall of 2001), with the formal RFP being issued a few months later (i.e., fall/winter 2001).

Additional workshops will be scheduled as needed. A workshop to review the data specification in detail is being planned for April 23-24, 2001, in conjunction with the national meeting of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing being held in St. Louis, MO. Please check the LDCM web site for confirmation of this workshop and for details.

Following January, 2001 LDCM workshop, there will be opportunities for private one-on-one conversations with NASA and USGS personnel. The Government will be available for comment/consultation until the final RFP is released. These opportunities for comment or discussion are being made available to all interested parties, including all potential vendors. Contacts for arranging such meetings are:

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The following ground rules apply to such meetings:

1. This procurement will be via an RFP; therefore, the government cannot submit a proposal, either alone or with industrial or academic partners.
2. The government can offer goods (e.g., technology transfer) and services to all potential vendors via a catalog; vendors may choose to use or not to use those items without prejudice, and costs to the government of selected items will be added to form an equivalent total proposal cost.
3. The Government may provide progress payments with proper safeguards and conditions.

4. It is permissible to discuss potentially useful technologies, potential technical approaches, potential changes to the data specification to assure full competition, and the overall procurement approach.
5. It is inappropriate to discuss potential government-industrial/academic partnerships, lobbying efforts to support this program, or anything that would jeopardize a free and open competition - the government can listen and clarify, but cannot suggest or recommend solutions.
6. Conversations with the government are confidential; proprietary material may be discussed and will not be disclosed.

In closing, please keep an eye on the web site, <http://ldcm.usgs.gov>, for further information.